

COST OF CAPITAL STUDY

YIELD CAPITALIZATION 2011 ASSESSMENT YEAR

APPENDIX C

NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION

| QUITY RATE | | | | | | 8.50% | |
|------------------------------------|------------|--------|-------|---|-------|--------------|------|
| CAPITAL ASSET PRICING MODEL | | | | | | | PAGE |
| CAPM Ex Post | | | 7.37% | | | | 5 |
| CAPM Ex Ante | | | 7.66% | | | | 6 |
| DIVIDEND GROWTH MODELS | | | | | | | |
| Value Line, based on Dividends Gro | owth | | 7.40% | | | | 8 |
| Value Line, based on Earnings Grow | wth | | 8.60% | | | | 9 |
| Value Line, based on Return on Eq | uity | | 8.00% | | | | 10 |
| | | | | | RANGE | 7.37 - 8.60% | |
| | | | | | | 6.000/ | |
| DEBT RATE | | | | | | 6.00% | 11 |
| MARKET CAPITAL STRUCTURE | | | | | | 6.00% | 11 |
| | 65% | × | 8.50% | = | | 5.53% | 3 |
| MARKET CAPITAL STRUCTURE | 65% 35% | x x | | | 2.10% | | |

WEIGHTED AVERAGE COST OF CAPITAL

6.83%

SUPPORT FOR GUIDELINE COMPANIES

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE 2011 ASSESSMENT YEAR NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION

Capital Structure at Book Value

| Company | Ticker | Beta | P/E Ratio | Div'd Yield | Common Stock | % | Preferred Stock | % | Long Term Debt | % | Total Debt & Equity |
|-------------------------|---------|------|--------------|----------------|----------------|-------|-----------------|------|----------------|-------|---------------------|
| AGL Resources | atg | 0.75 | 12.5 | 4.8% | 1,888,608,341 | 55.5% | = | 0.0% | 1,514,000,000 | 44.5% | 3,402,608,341 |
| Atmos Energy Corp | ato | 0.65 | 13.0 | 4.5% | 2,181,746,184 | 54.7% | = | 0.0% | 1,809,500,000 | 45.3% | 3,991,246,184 |
| Laclede Group | lg | 0.60 | 13.1 | 4.6% | 556,187,770 | 60.4% | - | 0.0% | 364,300,000 | 39.6% | 920,487,770 |
| New Jersey Resources | njr | 0.65 | 16.8 | 3.3% | 723,114,218 | 62.8% | - | 0.0% | 428,900,000 | 37.2% | 1,152,014,218 |
| Nicor Inc | gas | 0.70 | 15.4 | 4.3% | 1,079,162,531 | 71.8% | 100,000 | 0.0% | 423,400,000 | 28.2% | 1,502,662,531 |
| Nisource Inc | ni | 0.85 | 13.6 | 5.5% | 4,939,929,122 | 45.3% | - | 0.0% | 5,964,300,000 | 54.7% | 10,904,229,122 |
| NW Natural Gas | nwn | 0.60 | 18.1 | 3.6% | 684,552,122 | 53.6% | - | 0.0% | 591,600,000 | 46.4% | 1,276,152,122 |
| Piedmont Natural Gas | pny | 0.65 | 19.0 | 3.8% | 906,701,741 | 55.3% | - | 0.0% | 732,000,000 | 44.7% | 1,638,701,741 |
| South Jersey Industries | sji | 0.60 | 18.3 | 2.9% | 563,102,751 | 66.4% | - | 0.0% | 285,000,000 | 33.6% | 848,102,751 |
| Southwest Gas | swx | 0.75 | 14.6 | 3.0% | 1,118,209,194 | 51.0% | - | 0.0% | 1,075,500,000 | 49.0% | 2,193,709,194 |
| UGI Corp | ugi | 0.65 | 11.8 | 3.4% | 1,839,259,716 | 56.2% | - | 0.0% | 1,432,200,000 | 43.8% | 3,271,459,716 |
| WGL Holdings | wgl | 0.65 | 17.2 | 4.2% | 1,165,452,383 | 66.3% | - | 0.0% | 592,900,000 | 33.7% | 1,758,352,383 |
| | Mean | 0.68 | 15.3 | 4.0% | 1,470,502,173 | 58.3% | | 0.0% | 1,267,800,000 | 41.7% | |
| Weight | ed Mean | | | | 17,646,026,073 | 53.7% | 100,000 | 0.0% | 15,213,600,000 | 46.3% | 32,859,726,073 |
| | Median | | | | | 55.9% | | 0.0% | | 44.1% | |

SUPPORT FOR CAPITAL STRUCTURE MARKET VALUE

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE 2011 ASSESSMENT YEAR NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION

Capital Structure at Market Value

| Company | Ticker | Stock Average | Common Shares | Common Stock | % | Preferred Stock | % | Long Term Debt | % | Total Debt & Equity |
|-------------------------|--------|------------------|---------------|----------------|-------|-----------------|------|----------------|-------|---------------------|
| AGL Resources | atg | 37.718 | 78,041,667 | 2,943,601,610 | 63.4% | - | 0.0% | 1,695,982,800 | 36.6% | 4,639,584,410 |
| Atmos Energy Corp | ato | 30.147 | 90,154,801 | 2,717,866,734 | 58.6% | - | 0.0% | 1,917,828,733 | 41.4% | 4,635,695,467 |
| Laclede Group | lg | 35.570 | 22,292,095 | 792,929,819 | 67.2% | = | 0.0% | 387,736,930 | 32.8% | 1,180,666,749 |
| New Jersey Resources | njr | 41.690 | 41,250,098 | 1,719,716,586 | 78.8% | - | 0.0% | 462,938,278 | 21.2% | 2,182,654,864 |
| Nicor Inc | gas | 46.615 | 45,534,284 | 2,122,580,649 | 82.3% | 100,000 | 0.0% | 457,001,788 | 17.7% | 2,579,682,437 |
| Nisource Inc | ni | 17.335 | 278,305,866 | 4,824,432,187 | 42.8% | - | 0.0% | 6,437,637,611 | 57.2% | 11,262,069,798 |
| NW Natural Gas | nwn | 48.205 | 26,533,028 | 1,279,024,615 | 65.8% | - | 0.0% | 664,097,653 | 34.2% | 1,943,122,268 |
| Piedmont Natural Gas | pny | 29.170 | 71,113,862 | 2,074,391,355 | 73.3% | - | 0.0% | 757,012,122 | 26.7% | 2,831,403,476 |
| South Jersey Industries | sji | 51.265 | 29,872,825 | 1,531,430,374 | 87.0% | - | 0.0% | 229,681,500 | 13.0% | 1,761,111,874 |
| Southwest Gas | swx | 35.177 | 45,548,236 | 1,602,235,115 | 56.7% | - | 0.0% | 1,221,445,350 | 43.3% | 2,823,680,465 |
| UGI Corp | ugi | 30.210 | 110,466,049 | 3,337,179,340 | 68.4% | - | 0.0% | 1,539,237,420 | 31.6% | 4,876,416,760 |
| WGL Holdings | wgl | 37.485 | 51,071,533 | 1,914,416,415 | 74.9% | - | 0.0% | 641,599,373 | 25.1% | 2,556,015,788 |
| | | | Mean | | 68.3% | | 0.0% | | 31.7% | |
| | | | Weighted Mean | 26,859,804,797 | 62.1% | 100,000 | 0.0% | 16,412,199,559 | 37.9% | 43,272,104,356 |
| | | | Median | | 67.8% | | 0.0% | | 32.2% | |
| | | | Max | | 87.0% | | 0.0% | | 57.2% | |
| | | | Min | | 42.8% | | 0.0% | | 13.0% | |

Source: Target 65% 0% 35% 100%

Stock Price: Yahoo

Market Value Debt: Bond Analysis

SUPPORT FOR MARKET MULTIPLES

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE 2011 ASSESSMENT YEAR NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION

| Company | Ticker | Stock Avg | Revenues | Multiple | Cash Flow | Multiple | Earnings | Multiple | Divds Decld | Multiple | Book Value | Multiple |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|----------|----------|--------------|----------|----------|----------|----------------|----------|---------------|----------|
| AGL Resources | atg | 37.718 | 32.050 | 1.2 | 5.30 | 7.1 | 3.00 | 12.6 | 1.76 | 21.4 | 24.20 | 1.6 |
| Atmos Energy Corp | ato | 30.147 | 53.200 | 0.6 | 4.65 | 6.5 | 2.16 | 14.0 | 1.34 | 22.5 | 24.20 | 1.2 |
| Laclede Group | lg | 35.570 | 77.100 | 0.5 | 4.05 | 8.8 | 2.43 | 14.6 | 1.57 | 22.7 | 24.95 | 1.4 |
| New Jersey Resources | njr | 41.690 | 63.810 | 0.7 | 3.28 | 12.7 | 2.46 | 16.9 | 1.36 | 30.7 | 17.53 | 2.4 |
| Nicor Inc | gas | 46.615 | 59.350 | 0.8 | 7.10 | 6.6 | 2.75 | 17.0 | 1.86 | 25.1 | 23.70 | 2.0 |
| Nisource Inc | ni | 17.335 | 22.600 | 8.0 | 3.40 | 5.1 | 1.25 | 13.9 | 0.92 | 18.8 | 17.75 | 1.0 |
| NW Natural Gas | nwn | 48.205 | 28.100 | 1.7 | 5.20 | 9.3 | 2.75 | 17.5 | 1.68 | 28.7 | 25.80 | 1.9 |
| Piedmont Natural Gas | pny | 29.170 | 22.100 | 1.3 | 2.75 | 10.6 | 1.50 | 19.4 | 1.11 | 26.3 | 12.75 | 2.3 |
| South Jersey Industries | sji | 51.265 | 30.000 | 1.7 | 3.90 | 13.1 | 2.70 | 19.0 | 1.36 | 37.7 | 18.85 | 2.7 |
| Southwest Gas | swx | 35.177 | 39.650 | 0.9 | 6.50 | 5.4 | 2.35 | 15.0 | 1.00 | 35.2 | 24.55 | 1.4 |
| UGI Corp | ugi | 30.210 | 51.020 | 0.6 | 4.30 | 7.0 | 2.38 | 12.7 | 0.90 | 33.6 | 16.65 | 1.8 |
| WGL Holdings | wgl | 37.485 | 53.600 | 0.7 | 4.11 | 9.1 | 2.27 | 16.5 | 1.51 | 24.8 | 22.82 | 1.6 |
| | | Mean | | 0.9 | | 8.4 | | 15.8 | | 27.3 | | 1.8 |
| | | Median | | 0.8 | | 7.9 | | 15.7 | | 25.7 | | 1.7 |
| | | Max | | 1.7 | | 13.1 | | 19.4 | | 37.7 | | 2.7 |
| | | Min | | 0.46 | | 5.1 | | 12.6 | | 18.8 | | 1.0 |
| | | Std Dev | | 0.4 | | 2.7 | | 2.3 | | 5.9 | | 0.5 |
| C | oefficient of | f Variation | | 0.5 | | 0.3 | | 0.1 | | 0.2 | | 0.3 |
| | | Say | | 0.8 | | 8.0 | | 15.7 | | 25.7 | | 1.7 |

SUPPORT FOR YIELD CAPITALIZATION EQUITY COMPONENT CAPITAL ASSET PRICING MODEL

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE 2011 ASSESSMENT YEAR NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION

Ex Post Ke = Rf + B (Rm-Rf)

| Ke = | Cost of Equity | | | | | 7.37% |
|------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|--|-----------|
| | | | | | | to page 1 |
| | | Rf = | risk free rate | 4.25% | | |
| | | Rp = | risk premium | 4.80% | | |
| | | B = | Beta | 0.65 | | page 7 |
| Rp = | Risk Premium | (Rm-Rf) | | | | 4.80% |
| • | | | | | | to above |
| | 2011 Ibbotson Ris | k Premia Over | Time Report, Page 3 | | | |
| | | | less | _ | e Company Geometric Rm age Historical Rf Income Rei | turn |
| Rf = | Risk Free Rate | | | | | 4.25% |
| | THOR TTOO TRACE | | | | | to above |
| | 2011 Ibbotson Ris | k Premia Over | Time Report, Page 4 | | | |
| | | Long Term (2 | 20 years) US Treasury Bond Yiel | d | 4.10% | |
| | Value Line Investn | nent Survey, Se | lected Yields January 7, 2011, | page 2469 | | |
| | | US Treasury | Securities year end data | | | |
| | | • | 30 year | | 4.43% | |
| | | | 30 year | Zero | 4.71% | |
| | Federal Reserve S January 3, 2011 as | of 12-31-10 | se (http://www.federalreserve. | gov/Releases/H15/ | Current/) | |
| | | Treasury Co | onstant Maturities | | | |
| | | | 20 yea | | 4.13% | |
| | | | 30 yea | r | 4.34% | |
| | | | • | | | |
| | | | 20 yea | r TIPS | 1.59% | |
| | | | 20 yea | r TIPS | 1.59% 2.54% Inflation Indi | cation |

SUPPORT FOR YIELD CAPITALIZATION EQUITY COMPONENT CAPITAL ASSET PRICING MODEL

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE 2011 ASSESSMENT YEAR NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION

Ex Ante Ke = Rf + B (Rp)

| | Cost of Equity | | | | | | 7.66% |
|------|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----------------------|-----------|
| | | | | | | | to page 1 |
| | | Rm = | rate of return | 9.5 | 50% | | |
| | | Rf = | risk free rate | 4.2 | 25% | | |
| | | Rp = | risk premium | 5.2 | 25% | | |
| | | B = | Beta | 0 | 0.65 | | page 7 |
| | | | | | | | |
| Rp = | Risk Premium | | | | | | 5.25% |
| | | | | | | | to above |
| | Shannon Pratt and | - | | | 3.50- 6.00% | | |
| | | Cost of Cap 2008, Page | ital, Applications and E 113 | xamples, Third Edit | ion, | | |
| | Dr. Aswath Damod | laran | | | 5.20% | | |
| | | http://pages | .stern.nyu.edu/~adamo | odar/ | | | |
| | | 2010 Implie | d Premium | | | | |
| | Ibbotson | · | | | 6.00% | | |
| | | 2011 Risk P | remia Over Time Repo | ort, Page 4 | | | |
| | | | n expected ERP (supp | - | | | |
| | Campbell Harvey | 3 | - | , , | 2.89% | December 2010 | |
| | | The Equity I | Risk Premium 10 Year | Data: Evidence from | n 3.42% | 10 year average | |
| | | | O Outlook Survey | | 2.39 - 4.74% | | ine |
| | | | | | | | |
| Rf = | Risk Free Rate | | | | | | 4.25% |
| | | | | | | | to above |
| | 2011 Ibbotson Risl | k Premia Ove | r Time Report, Page | ļ | | | |
| | 2011 Ibbotson Risi | | | | 4 10% | | |
| | 2011 Ibbotson Risi | | r Time Report, Page | | 4.10% | | |
| | | Long Term | | / Bond Yield | | | |
| | | Long Term | (20 years) US Treasur | Pond Yield | | | |
| | | Long Term | (20 years) US Treasur | Pond Yield | | | |
| | | Long Term | (20 years) US Treasur | r Bond Yield ary 7, 2011, page 2 ata | 469 | | |
| | Value Line Investn | Long Term nent Survey, 3 US Treasur tatistical Rele of 12-31-10 | (20 years) US Treasury Selected Yields January y Securities year end decease (http://www.fede | ary 7, 2011, page 2 ata 30 year 30 year Zero | 4.43% 4.71% | | |
| | Value Line Investn | Long Term nent Survey, 3 US Treasur tatistical Rele of 12-31-10 | (20 years) US Treasur Selected Yields January y Securities year end d | ary 7, 2011, page 2 ata 30 year 30 year Zero | 4.43% 4.71% eleases/H15/Current/) | | |
| | Value Line Investn | Long Term nent Survey, 3 US Treasur tatistical Rele of 12-31-10 | (20 years) US Treasury Selected Yields January y Securities year end decease (http://www.fede | ary 7, 2011, page 2 ata 30 year 30 year Zero | 4.43% 4.71% | | |
| | Value Line Investn | Long Term nent Survey, 3 US Treasur tatistical Rele of 12-31-10 | (20 years) US Treasury Selected Yields January y Securities year end decease (http://www.fede | ary 7, 2011, page 2 ata 30 year 30 year Zero | 4.43% 4.71% eleases/H15/Current/) | | |
| | Value Line Investn | Long Term nent Survey, 3 US Treasur tatistical Rele of 12-31-10 | (20 years) US Treasury Selected Yields January y Securities year end decease (http://www.fede | ary 7, 2011, page 2 ata 30 year 30 year Zero eralreserve.gov/Re | 4.43% 4.71% eleases/H15/Current/) | | |
| | Value Line Investn | Long Term nent Survey, 3 US Treasur tatistical Rele of 12-31-10 | (20 years) US Treasury Selected Yields January y Securities year end decease (http://www.fede | ary 7, 2011, page 2 ata 30 year 30 year Zero eralreserve.gov/Re 20 year 30 year | 4.43% 4.71% eleases/H15/Current/) 4.13% 4.34% | Inflation Indication | |

BETA CALCULATION FOR CAPM

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE 2011 ASSESSMENT YEAR NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION

| Company | Ticker | Value Line |
|-------------------------|--------|------------|
| AGL Resources | atg | 0.75 |
| Atmos Energy Corp | ato | 0.65 |
| Laclede Group | lg | 0.60 |
| New Jersey Resources | njr | 0.65 |
| Nicor Inc | gas | 0.70 |
| Nisource Inc | ni | 0.85 |
| NW Natural Gas | nwn | 0.60 |
| Piedmont Natural Gas | pny | 0.65 |
| South Jersey Industries | sji | 0.60 |
| Southwest Gas | swx | 0.75 |
| UGI Corp | ugi | 0.65 |
| WGL Holdings | wgl | 0.65 |
| | Mean | 0.68 |
| | Median | 0.65 |
| | Max | 0.85 |
| | Min | 0.60 |
| | | |

Source: Value Line-five year, weekly Say 0.65

SUPPORT FOR YIELD CAPITALIZATION EQUITY COMPONENT DIVIDEND GROWTH MODEL

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE 2011 ASSESSMENT YEAR NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION

Based on Dividend Growth

Ke = (D1 / Po) + G

 $\begin{array}{lll} \mbox{Ke} & = & \mbox{Cost of Equity} \\ \mbox{D1} & = & \mbox{Expected Dividends} \\ \mbox{Po} & = & \mbox{Current Price} \\ \mbox{G} & = & \mbox{Sustainable Growth} \\ \end{array}$

| Company | Ticker | Stock Price (Po) | Expected Dividend (D1) | Dividend Yield (D1/Po) | Dividend Growth (G) | Ke |
|-------------------------|--------|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|--------|
| AGL Resources | atg | 37.718 | 1.80 | 4.77% | 2.20% | 6.97% |
| Atmos Energy Corp | ato | 30.147 | 1.36 | 4.51% | 1.99% | 6.50% |
| Laclede Group | lg | 35.570 | 1.61 | 4.53% | 2.75% | 7.28% |
| New Jersey Resources | njr | 41.690 | 1.44 | 3.45% | 3.49% | 6.94% |
| Nicor Inc | gas | 46.615 | 1.86 | 3.99% | nil | nmf |
| Nisource Inc | ni | 17.335 | 0.93 | 5.36% | 0.54% | 5.90% |
| NW Natural Gas | nwn | 48.205 | 1.72 | 3.57% | 3.93% | 7.50% |
| Piedmont Natural Gas | pny | 29.170 | 1.15 | 3.94% | 3.42% | 7.37% |
| South Jersey Industries | sji | 51.265 | 1.48 | 2.89% | 7.85% | 10.74% |
| Southwest Gas | swx | 35.177 | 1.05 | 2.98% | 4.66% | 7.65% |
| UGI Corp | ugi | 30.210 | 1.00 | 3.31% | 6.55% | 9.86% |
| WGL Holdings | wgl | 37.485 | 1.55 | 4.13% | 2.55% | 6.68% |
| | | | | | Mean | 7.58% |
| | | | | | Median | 7.28% |
| | | | | | Max | 10.74% |
| | | | | | Min | 5.90% |

Source: Value Line Projections to 13-15 Say 7.40%

SUPPORT FOR YIELD CAPITALIZATION EQUITY COMPONENT **DIVIDEND GROWTH MODEL**

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE 2011 ASSESSMENT YEAR NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION

Based on Earnings Growth

Ke = (D1 / Po) + G

Ke = Cost of Equity D1 = Expected Dividends Current Price Po = G = Sustainable Growth

| Company | Ticker | Stock Price (Po) | Expected Dividend (D1) | Dividend Yield (D1/Po) | Earnings Growth (G) | Ke |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|--------|
| AGL Resources | atg | 37.718 | 1.80 | 4.77% | 4.66% | 9.44% |
| Atmos Energy Corp | ato | 30.147 | 1.36 | 4.51% | 5.74% | 10.25% |
| Laclede Group | lg | 35.570 | 1.61 | 4.53% | 5.41% | 9.94% |
| New Jersey Resources | njr | 41.690 | 1.44 | 3.45% | 5.09% | 8.54% |
| Nicor Inc | gas | 46.615 | 1.86 | 3.99% | 2.20% | 6.19% |
| Nisource Inc | ni | 17.335 | 0.93 | 5.36% | 6.37% | 11.73% |
| NW Natural Gas | nwn | 48.205 | 1.72 | 3.57% | 4.26% | 7.83% |
| Piedmont Natural Gas | pny | 29.170 | 1.15 | 3.94% | 6.09% | 10.03% |
| South Jersey Industries | sji | 51.265 | 1.48 | 2.89% | 5.93% | 8.82% |
| Southwest Gas | swx | 35.177 | 1.05 | 2.98% | 4.48% | 7.46% |
| UGI Corp | ugi | 30.210 | 1.00 | 3.31% | 1.24% | 4.55% |
| WGL Holdings | wgl | 37.485 | 1.55 | 4.13% | 2.95% | 7.09% |
| | • | • | | | Mean | 8.49% |
| | | | | | Median | 8.68% |
| | | | | | Max | 11.73% |
| | | | | | Min | 4.55% |
| Source: Value Line Projections to | o 13-15 | | | | Say | 8.60% |

SUPPORT FOR YIELD CAPITALIZATION EQUITY COMPONENT **DIVIDEND GROWTH MODEL**

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE 2011 ASSESSMENT YEAR NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION

Based on Return on Equity

Ke = (D1 / Po) + GCost of Equity
Expected Dividends Ke = D1 = Po = Current Price G = Sustainable Growth

Retained Earnings (plowback) Return on Equity b =

ROE =

Value Line

| Company | Ticker | Stock Price (Po) | Expected Dividend (D1) | Dividend Yield (D1/Po) | b (1- payout ratio) | ROE | Growth (b*ROE) | Ke |
|-------------------------|--------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|--------|-------------------|--------|
| AGL Resources | atg | 37.718 | 1.80 | 4.77% | 45.0% | 13.00% | 5.85% | 10.62% |
| Atmos Energy Corp | ato | 30.147 | 1.36 | 4.51% | 40.0% | 9.50% | 3.80% | 8.31% |
| Laclede Group | lg | 35.570 | 1.61 | 4.53% | 35.0% | 9.50% | 3.33% | 7.85% |
| New Jersey Resources | njr | 41.690 | 1.44 | 3.45% | 48.0% | 14.10% | 6.77% | 10.22% |
| Nicor Inc | gas | 46.615 | 1.86 | 3.99% | 33.0% | 11.50% | 3.80% | 7.79% |
| Nisource Inc | ni | 17.335 | 0.93 | 5.36% | 27.0% | 7.00% | 1.89% | 7.25% |
| NW Natural Gas | nwn | 48.205 | 1.72 | 3.57% | 40.0% | 10.50% | 4.20% | 7.77% |
| Piedmont Natural Gas | pny | 29.170 | 1.15 | 3.94% | 26.0% | 12.00% | 3.12% | 7.06% |
| South Jersey Industries | sji | 51.265 | 1.48 | 2.89% | 51.0% | 14.50% | 7.40% | 10.28% |
| Southwest Gas | swx | 35.177 | 1.05 | 2.98% | 58.0% | 9.50% | 5.51% | 8.49% |
| UGI Corp | ugi | 30.210 | 1.00 | 3.31% | 62.0% | 14.30% | 8.87% | 12.18% |
| WGL Holdings | wgl | 37.485 | 1.55 | 4.13% | 35.0% | 10.00% | 3.50% | 7.63% |
| | | | | | <u>.</u> | ·- | Mean | 8.79% |
| | | | | | | | Median | 8.08% |
| | | | | | | | Max | 12.18% |
| | | | | | | | Min | 7.06% |

Say 8.00%

SUPPORT FOR DEBT RATING AND DEBT YIELD RATE

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE 2011 ASSESSMENT YEAR NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION

| Company | Ticker | Mergent's Ratings | S&P Ratings | WAYTM |
|-----------------------------|--------|----------------------|-------------|-------|
| AGL Resources | atg | | A- | 6.08% |
| Atmos Energy Corp | ato | | BBB+ | 5.26% |
| Laclede Group | lg | | Α | 5.35% |
| New Jersey Resources | njr | | Α | |
| Nicor Inc | gas | | AA | |
| Nisource Inc | ni | | BBB- | |
| NW Natural Gas | nwn | | A+ | 5.37% |
| Piedmont Natural Gas | pny | | Α | 6.05% |
| South Jersey Industries | sji | | BBB+ | 7.38% |
| Southwest Gas | swx | Baa2 | BBB | 6.52% |
| UGI Corp | ugi | | | 4.45% |
| WGL Holdings | wgl | A2 | AA- | 3.80% |
| Overall Average Debt Rating | | Baa1 | A- | 5.58% |

bond analysis, A-BBB bonds

| | All issues | 20+ year maturities |
|----------------------------------|------------|---------------------|
| Guideline Companies, All Ratings | 5.41% | 6.02% |
| | | |

bond analysis page 12

Mergent's Bond Record January 2011, page 210

| Corporate | Aaa | Aa | Α | Baa |
|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| October | 4.68% | 4.83% | 5.09% | 5.72% |
| November | 4.87% | 5.07% | 5.33% | 5.92% |
| December | 5.02% | 5.26% | 5.52% | 6.10% |
| 4th Qtr Average | 4.86% | 5.05% | 5.31% | 5.91% |
| Public Utilities | Aaa | Aa | Α | Baa |
| October | | 4.89% | 5.10% | 5.62% |
| November | | 5.12% | 5.37% | 5.85% |
| December | | 5.32% | 5.56% | 6.04% |
| 4th Qtr Average | | 5.11% | 5.34% | 5.84% |
| Industrials | Aaa | Aa | Α | Baa |
| October | 4.68% | 4.77% | 5.07% | 5.81% |
| November | 4.87% | 5.02% | 5.29% | 5.99% |
| December | 5.02% | 5.19% | 5.47% | 6.15% |
| 4th Qtr Average | 4.86% | 4.99% | 5.28% | 5.98% |

| Debt Yield Rate | 6.00% |
|-----------------|-------|
|-----------------|-------|

to page 1

Natural Gas Distribution Bond Analysis 12/31/2010 Issued / Book maturity Price 12/10 current vield vield to maturity WAYTM Mkt Val Mkt : Book Embedded **Debt Service** Company type coupon Rating AGL Resource MTN 7.300 2027 112.02 \$ 54,000,000 6.52% 6.08% 0.11% A-\$ 60,490,800 112.02% 3,942,000 100 112.02 \$ Percent of book 112.02% 0.11% 3,942,000 Sum 54,000,000 60,490,800 112.02% 7.30% \$ Atmos Energy Sr Nt 6.350 2017 110.22 \$ 250,000,000 5.76% 4.23% 0.36% BBB+ \$ 275,550,000 110.22% 15,875,000 Deb 6.750 2028 108.62 \$ 150,000,000 6.21% 5.92% 0.30% BBB+ \$ 162,930,000 108.62% 10,125,000 Atmos Energy Sr Nt 2034 98.72 \$ 6.03% BBB+ \$ 197,440,000 98.72% Atmos Energy 5.950 200,000,000 6.06% 0.41% 11,900,000 3 300 317.56 \$ 600,000,000 105.85% 1.07% 635.920.000 105.99% 6.32% 37.900.000 Sum Percent of book \$ Laclede Gas 1st Mtg 5.500 2019 105.07 \$ 150,000,000 5.23% 4.68% 0.24% Α \$ 157,605,000 105.07% 8,250,000 Laclede Gas 1st Mta 7.000 2029 111.62 \$ 25,000,000 6.27% 5.92% 0.05% Α \$ 27.905.000 111.62% 1.750.000 Laclede Gas 1st Mtg 7.900 2030 122.41 \$ 30,000,000 6.45% 5.88% 0.06% Α \$ 36,723,000 122.41% 2,370,000 Laclede Gas 1st Mtg 6.000 2034 105.15 \$ 150,000,000 5.71% 5.59% 0.28% Α \$ 157,725,000 105.15% 9,000,000 6.150 NR Laclede Gas 1st Mtg 2036 102.58 \$ 55,000,000 6.00% 5.95% 0.11% \$ 56,419,000 102.58% 3,382,500 500 109.37% Sum 546.83 \$ 410,000,000 0.74% 436,377,000 106.43% 6.04% 24,752,500 5 Percent of book \$ Northwest Nat Gas MTN 7.630 2019 120.76 \$ 123,000,000 6.32% 4.33% 0.18% A+ \$ 148,534,800 120.76% 9,384,900 4.45% Northwest Nat Gas MTN 9.050 2021 135.04 \$ 10,000,000 6.70% 0.02% Α \$ 13,504,000 135.04% 905,000 Northwest Nat Gas MTN 7.000 2017 117.62 \$ 40,000,000 5.95% 3.43% 0.05% \$ 47,048,000 117.62% 2,800,000 A+Northwest Nat Gas MTN 7.720 2025 127.57 \$ 6.05% 4.88% 0.20% 127.57% 9,495,600 123,000,000 A+ \$ 156,911,100 Northwest Nat Gas MTN 5.620 2023 106.80 \$ 150,000,000 5.26% 4.84% 0.25% A+ \$ 160,200,000 106.80% 8,430,000 Northwest Nat Gas MTN 7.740 2030 118.79 \$ 123,000,000 6.52% 6.03% 0.25% A+ \$ 146.111.700 118.79% 9.520.200 Northwest Nat Gas MTN 7.850 2030 120.04 \$ 123,000,000 6.54% 6.02% 0.25% A+ \$ 147,649,200 120.04% 9,655,500 Northwest Nat Gas MTN 5.820 2032 96.30 \$ 108,000,000 6.04% 6.14% 0.23% A+ \$ 104,004,000 96.30% 6,285,600 MTN 94.97 \$ 5.96% 6.09% 8.490.000 Northwest Nat Gas 5.660 2033 150,000,000 0.31% A+ \$ 142,455,000 94.97% 9 900 1037.89 \$ 950,000,000 115.32% 1.73% 1,066,417,800 112.25% 6.84% 64,966,800 Sum Percent of book \$ Piedmont Nat Gas MTN 7.950 2029 120.83 \$ 60,000,000 6.58% 6.00% 0.12% Α \$ 72,498,000 120.83% 4,770,000 Piedmont Nat Gas Nt 6.000 2033 101.35 \$ 200.000.000 5.92% 5.89% 0.40% Α \$ 202.700.000 101.35% 12.000.000 Piedmont Nat Gas Nt 6.250 2036 100.26 \$ 200,000,000 6.23% 6.23% 0.42% Α \$ 200,520,000 100.26% 12,500,000 3 322.44 \$ 0.94% 300 460,000,000 Percent of book 107.48% 475,718,000 103.42% 6.36% 29,270,000 Sum \$ South Jersey Inds MTN 5.550 2033 80.59 \$ 30,000,000 6.89% 7.38% 0.08% Α \$ 24,177,000 80.59% 1,665,000 1 100 Sum 80.59 \$ 30.000.000 Percent of book 80.59% 0.08% 24.177.000 80.59% 1,665,000 \$ BBB Southwest Gas Deb 8.000 2026 113.57 \$ 75,000,000 7.04% 6.52% 0.17% \$ 85,177,500 113.57% 6,000,000 100 113.57 \$ 113.57% 0.17% 8.00% Sum 75,000,000 Percent of book \$ 85,177,500 113.57% 6.000.000 **UGI Corp** MTN 7.250 2017 117.01 \$ 20,000,000 6.20% 3.77% 0.03% BBB \$ 23,402,000 117.01% 1,450,000 5.753 2016 5.15% 2.94% 0.10% NR 111,690,000 **UGI Corp** Sr Nt 111.69 \$ 100,000,000 \$ 111.69% 5,753,000 NR 6.12% 6.10% **UGI Corp** Sr Nt 6.206 2036 101.35 \$ 100,000,000 0.21% \$ 101,350,000 101.35% 6,206,000 3 300 Sum 330.05 \$ 220.000.000 110.02% 0.33% 236.442.000 107.47% 6.10% 13,409,000 Percent of book \$ WGL Holdings MTN 6.490 2027 109.89 \$ 8,000,000 5.91% 5.52% 0.01% AA-\$ 8,791,200 109.89% 519,200 0.05% WGL Holdings MTN 6.820 2026 115.03 \$ 25,000,000 5.93% 5.31% AA-\$ 28,757,500 115.03% 1,705,000 WGL Holdings MTN 5.440 2025 109.03 \$ 41,000,000 4.99% 4.53% 0.06% AA-\$ 44,702,300 109.03% 2,230,400 MTN 0.02% WGL Holdings 5.170 2016 110.85 \$ 25,000,000 4.66% 2.58% AA-\$ 27,712,500 110.85% 1,292,500 MTN WGL Holdings 5.700 2036 102.00 \$ 25,000,000 5.59% 5.55% 0.05% AA-\$ 25,500,000 102.00% 1,425,000 5.781 2036 0.05% 1,445,250 WGL Holdings MTN 103.10 \$ 25.000.000 5.61% 5.55% AA-\$ 25.775.000 103.10% 6 600 Sum 649.90 \$ 149,000,000 Percent of book 108.32% 0.24% 161,238,500 108.21% 8,617,350 3,181,958,600 107.94% 6.46% \$ 190,522,650 Total \$ 2,948,000,000 5.41% Total \$ This includes short term. For 20+ year maturities see below Company type coupon maturity Price 12/10 Issued / Book current yield yield to maturity Weighted A Rating Mkt Val Mkt : Book Embedded | **Debt Service** MTN 5.820 2032 96.30 \$ 108,000,000 6.04% 0.53% \$ 104.004.000 96.30% 6,285,600 Northwest Nat Gas 6.14% A+ Northwest Nat Gas MTN 5.660 2033 94.97 \$ 150,000,000 5.96% 6.09% 0.73% A+ \$ 142,455,000 94.97% 8,490,000 Piedmont Nat Gas Nt 6.000 2033 101.35 \$ 200,000,000 5.92% 5.89% 0.95% Α \$ 202,700,000 101.35% 12,000,000 MTN 5.550 2033 80.59 \$ 30,000,000 6.89% 7.38% 0.18% Α \$ 24,177,000 80.59% 1,665,000 South Jersey Inds BBB+ 5.950 2034 98.72 \$ 6.06% 0.97% \$ 197.440.000 98.72% 11,900,000 Atmos Energy Sr Nt 200.000.000 6.03% Laclede Gas 1st Mtg 6.000 2034 105.15 \$ 150,000,000 5.71% 5.59% 0.67% Α \$ 157,725,000 105.15% 9,000,000 Laclede Gas 1st Mta 6.150 2036 102.58 \$ 55,000,000 6.00% 5.95% 0.26% NR \$ 56.419.000 102.58% 3.382.500 6.250 6.23% 6.23% 1.00% 200,520,000 Piedmont Nat Gas Nt 2036 100.26 \$ 200,000,000 Α \$ 100.26% 12,500,000 NR **UGI Corp** Sr Nt 6.206 2036 101.35 \$ 100,000,000 6.12% 6.10% 0.49% \$ 101,350,000 101.35% 6,206,000 MTN 5.700 2036 102.00 \$ 5.59% 5.55% 0.11% AA-WGL Holdings 25,000,000 \$ 25.500.000 102.00% 1,425,000 WGL Holdings MTN 5.781 2036 103.10 \$ 25,000,000 5.61% 5.55% 0.11% AA-\$ 25,775,000 103.10% 1,445,250 Total \$ 1,243,000,000 6.02% Total \$ 1,238,065,000 99.60% 5.98% \$ 74,299,350

Source: Standard & Poor's Bond Guide, January 2011, 2010 Yr End Prices

12

5.98%

6.02%

6.00%

6.00%

Embedded debt rate

SAY:

Weighted average yield to maturity

Debt service / Market value

DATA INPUT

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE 2011 ASSESSMENT YEAR NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION

Instructions: Data entered on this page will flow to the applicable worksheets.

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|-----|-----|--------|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | | | |

| Guideline Companie | s | Stock Price | Revenues | Cash Flow | Earnings | Dividends | Bk Value | Common | Calculated Debt | Wtd Avg YTM | Payout Ratio | Payout Ratio | ROE |
|-------------------------|--------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|
| Name | Ticker | (4th Qtr Avg) | Per Share | Per Share | Per Share | Per Share | Stock | Shares | mk to bk | | calculated | V L | V L |
| AGL Resources | atg | 37.718 | 32.050 | 5.300 | 3.000 | 1.760 | 24.200 | 78,041,667 | 112.02% | 6.08% | 59% | 55% | 13.0% |
| Atmos Energy Corp | ato | 30.147 | 53.200 | 4.650 | 2.160 | 1.340 | 24.200 | 90,154,801 | 105.99% | 5.26% | 62% | 60% | 9.5% |
| Laclede Group | lg | 35.570 | 77.100 | 4.050 | 2.430 | 1.570 | 24.950 | 22,292,095 | 106.43% | 5.35% | 65% | 65% | 9.5% |
| New Jersey Resources | njr | 41.690 | 63.810 | 3.280 | 2.460 | 1.360 | 17.530 | 41,250,098 | 107.94% | | 55% | 52% | 14.1% |
| Nicor Inc | gas | 46.615 | 59.350 | 7.100 | 2.750 | 1.860 | 23.700 | 45,534,284 | 107.94% | | nmf | 67% | 11.5% |
| Nisource Inc | ni | 17.335 | 22.600 | 3.400 | 1.250 | 0.920 | 17.750 | 278,305,866 | 107.94% | | 74% | 73% | 7.0% |
| NW Natural Gas | nwn | 48.205 | 28.100 | 5.200 | 2.750 | 1.680 | 25.800 | 26,533,028 | 112.25% | 5.37% | nmf | 60% | 10.5% |
| Piedmont Natural Gas | pny | 29.170 | 22.100 | 2.750 | 1.500 | 1.110 | 12.750 | 71,113,862 | 103.42% | 6.05% | 74% | 74% | 12.0% |
| South Jersey Industries | sji | 51.265 | 30.000 | 3.900 | 2.700 | 1.360 | 18.850 | 29,872,825 | 80.59% | 7.38% | 50% | 49% | 14.5% |
| Southwest Gas | SWX | 35.177 | 39.650 | 6.500 | 2.350 | 1.000 | 24.550 | 45,548,236 | 113.57% | 6.52% | 43% | 42% | 9.5% |
| UGI Corp | ugi | 30.210 | 51.020 | 4.300 | 2.380 | 0.900 | 16.650 | 110,466,049 | 107.47% | 4.45% | nmf | 38% | 14.3% |
| WGL Holdings | wgl | 37.485 | 53.600 | 4.110 | 2.270 | 1.510 | 22.820 | 51,071,533 | 108.21% | 3.80% | 67% | 65% | 10.0% |

Value Line December 10, 2010

Yahoo

Value Line

100.13%

SUPPORT FOR DIRECT CAPITALIZATION EQUITY COMPONENT

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE 2011 ASSESSMENT YEAR NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION

| | | | 2010 | | 2011 | | 2010 | | 2011 | | |
|------------------------------|--------|------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Company | Ticker | Stock Average | | Earnings (EPS/P) | Earning | ected gs Ratio PS/P) | | | | Projected Cash Flow Ratio | |
| AGL Resources | atg | 37.72 | 3.00 | 8.0% | 3.15 | 8.4% | 5.30 | 14.1% | 5.55 | 14.7% | |
| Atmos Energy Corp | ato | 30.15 | 2.16 | 7.2% | 2.30 | 7.6% | 4.65 | 15.4% | 5.05 | 16.8% | |
| Laclede Group | lg | 35.57 | 2.43 | 6.8% | 2.55 | 7.2% | 4.05 | 11.4% | 4.35 | 12.2% | |
| New Jersey Resources | njr | 41.69 | 2.46 | 5.9% | 2.65 | 6.4% | 3.28 | 7.9% | 3.50 | 8.4% | |
| Nicor Inc | gas | 46.62 | 2.75 | 5.9% | 2.80 | 6.0% | 7.10 | 15.2% | 7.30 | 15.7% | |
| Nisource Inc | ni | 17.34 | 1.25 | 7.2% | 1.30 | 7.5% | 3.40 | 19.6% | 3.55 | 20.5% | |
| NW Natural Gas | nwn | 48.21 | 2.75 | 5.7% | 2.80 | 5.8% | 5.20 | 10.8% | 5.30 | 11.0% | |
| Piedmont Natural Gas | pny | 29.17 | 1.50 | 5.1% | 1.60 | 5.5% | 2.75 | 9.4% | 2.85 | 9.8% | |
| South Jersey Industries | sji | 51.27 | 2.70 | 5.3% | 2.90 | 5.7% | 3.90 | 7.6% | 4.05 | 7.9% | |
| Southwest Gas | SWX | 35.18 | 2.35 | 6.7% | 2.45 | 7.0% | 6.50 | 18.5% | 6.70 | 19.0% | |
| UGI Corp | ugi | 30.21 | 2.38 | 7.9% | 2.40 | 7.9% | 4.30 | 14.2% | 4.35 | 14.4% | |
| WGL Holdings | wgl | 37.49 | 2.27 | 6.1% | 2.10 | 5.6% | 4.11 | 11.0% | 3.95 | 10.5% | |
| Mean Median Max Min | | | 6.5% 6.4% 8.0% 5.1% | | 6.7% 6.7% 8.4% 5.5% | | 12.9% 12.7% 19.6% 7.6% | | 13.4% 13.3% 20.5% 7.9% | | |
| Source: | | Say | | 6.4% | | 6.7% | | 12.7% | | 13.3% | |

Actual earnings: Value Line / Q4 average stock price Estimated Earnings: Value Line / Q4 average stock price Actual Cash Flow: Value Line / Q4 average stock price Estimated Cash Flow: Value Line / Q4 average stock price

AVERAGE FOURTH QUARTER STOCK PRICE

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE 2011 ASSESSMENT YEAR NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION

| AGL Resources atg | 36.72 Q4 Average |
|---|---------------------|
| Date Open 12/01/2010 High 37.1 Low 37.97 Close 34.21 Volume 35.85 Adj Close 75.8400 35.85 11/01/2010 39.37 39.66 36.68 36.73 335300 36.73 10/01/2010 38.46 39.55 38.24 39.26 311300 38.81 | |
| Atmos Energy Corp ato | |
| Date Open High Low Close Volume Adj Close 12/01/2010 30.34 31.99 30.32 31.2 534100 31.2 11/01/2010 29.59 30.71 29.31 30.07 496100 30.07 10/01/2010 29.42 29.71 28.84 29.45 411000 29.12 | |
| Laclede Group Inc Ig | |
| Date Open High Low Close Volume Adj Close 12/01/2010 35.8 37.82 35.41 36.54 81800 36.54 11/01/2010 35.18 36 34.15 35.35 64600 34.95 10/01/2010 34.69 35.75 34.29 35.11 62600 34.72 | |
| New Jersey Resources njr | |
| Date Open 12/01/2010 High 43.64 Low 2014 Close 43.11 Volume 177200 Adj Close 43.11 11/01/2010 40.62 43.77 39.7 43.11 169500 42.75 10/01/2010 39.59 41.24 38.94 40.49 145300 40.15 | |
| Nicor Inc gas | |
| Date Open High Low Close Volume Adj Close 12/01/2010 43.75 50.81 42.98 49.92 1023300 49.92 11/01/2010 47.91 48.43 43 43.25 362000 42.85 10/01/2010 46.23 48.47 46 47.63 387400 47.19 | |
| Nisource Inc ni | |
| Date Open High Low Close Volume Adj Close 12/01/2010 16.93 17.78 16.83 17.62 2344800 17.62 11/01/2010 17.47 17.64 16.65 16.73 2179500 16.73 10/01/2010 17.55 17.96 17.15 17.31 3015100 17.31 | |
| NW Natural Gas nwn | |
| Date Open High Low Close Volume Adj Close 12/01/2010 49.42 49.61 44.02 46.47 280800 46.47 11/01/2010 49.81 50.09 47.42 48.82 110700 48.82 10/01/2010 47.64 50.86 47.23 49.29 109000 49.29 | |
| Piedmont Natural Gas pny | |
| Date Open High Low Close Volume Adj Close 12/01/2010 29.96 30.1 27.77 27.96 618400 27.96 | 29.170 |

| 11/01/2010 | 28.98 | 29.98 | 28.29 | 29.58 | 342600 | 29.3 |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| 10/01/2010 | 29.24 | 29.85 | 29.03 | 29.49 | 402600 | 29.21 |

South Jersey Industries sji

| 11/01/2 | 2010 51.79 2010 50.36 | High Low 54.24 51.61 52.13 49.33 51.01 49.27 | 52.82 51.19 | 101500 105400 | · | 52.82 50.83 50.01 | 51.265 |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|------------------|---|-------------------------|--------|
| Southwest G | as Corp swx | | | | | | |
| 12/01/2 11/01/2 | 2010 35.54 2010 35 | High Low 37.25 34.92 36.14 34.1 35.24 33.41 | 36.67 35.03 | 171200 160300 | · | 36.67 35.03 34.52 | 35.177 |
| UGI Corp ugi | | | | | | | |
| 11/01/2 | 2010 30.09 2010 30.3 | High Low 32.49 30.05 30.9 29.11 30.14 28.57 | 31.58 29.67 | 794500 491700 | · | 31.58 29.44 29.85 | 30.210 |
| WGL Holding | ıs wgl | | | | | | |
| 11/01/2 | | 40 36.13 | 35.77 36.26 | 473600 | • | 35.4 35.88 38.15 | 37.485 |

Source: finance.yahoo.com Historical Stock Quotes 01/03/2011